

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 10, 2003. Claims 1-25 are pending in the application. By the present amendment, claim 1 has been amended to correct grammar. No new matter has been added. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection in view of the amendment and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

By the Office Action, claims 1-8, 10-17 and 19-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. '102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,308,062 to Chien et al. (hereinafter Chien).

Chien is directed to a telephone/computer system such that computer related functions are made available to wireless telephones. The Examiner stated that Chien does not particularly teach a phone call linear combiner, but that such an apparatus would be inherent to a phone system in a multiplexing environment. The Applicant's respectfully disagree with the Examiner's rationale and further disagree that Chien teaches such a combiner or that such a combiner is inherent in Chien.

Claim 1 of the present invention, includes, *inter alia*, a wireless telephone system comprising ...a base unit comprising a base transceiver for communication over an RF channel with each handset via its handset transceiver; and interface for interfacing with an external computer characterized in that said interface comprises: a processor, and a phone call linear combiner for selectively combining and routing telephone calls in the system under the control of the processor in accordance with a system configuration, wherein the computer, when interfaced with the base unit via the interface, can communicate with the processor to change the system configuration.

While a multiplexing environment may provide routing of calls, there is no disclosure or suggestion of combining or selectively combining telephone calls in Chien. In fact, there is not explicit reference to multiplexing in Chien although it may have been implied as the Examiner suggests. A phone call linear combiner in accordance with the present invention is controlled by the processor and actually combines audio data from one or more calls. Multiplexers typically route data from multiple sources on fewer data lines. Such multiplexing is not described in Chien. Even if multiplexing is provided by Chien, it is NOT inherent to the multiplexing process that separate data signals be mixed or merged by a linear combiner as the

Examiner suggests. It is further submitted that Chien lacks sufficient detail to make such a statement.

The present claims specifically call for a linear combiner. A '102(e) rejection requires a showing of ALL elements in the claims. However, the cited reference fails to disclose or suggest a linear combiner or even its function, for example, selectively combining calls. In contrast to the cited reference, as set forth in the present specification at page 6, lines 21-22, the phone call linear combiner is employed for “merging multiple handsets and/or phone lines to make conference calls”, at page 8, lines 15-16, the phone call linear combiner “combines and mixes” calls, and at page 9, lines 11-13, the “Phone linear combiner 230 may be used to combine telephone call data for various purposes, such as conference calling, under the control of PC 140.” (see also claims 4, 13 and 22). Chien is silent on how conference calls are made and fails to disclose or suggest a linear combiner under processor control as specifically set forth in claims 1 and in claims 10 and 19. In fact, Chen discloses that many features including conference calling are provided in software (see e.g., col. 6, lines 1-7), in contrast to employing a linear combiner.

In addition to the failure to disclose the combiner, Chien also fails to disclose or suggest other aspects of the present claims. For example, the independent claims further include a recitation: “wherein the computer, when interfaced with the base unit via the interface, can communicate with the processor to change the system configuration”. Here, the computer can communicate **with the base unit processor** to change the system configuration. This feature is not disclosed or suggested by Chien. This relationship between the processor and external computer and its ability to reconfigure the system are not disclosed or suggested by Chien. To further highlight this significant difference between Chien and the present invention, see page 7, lines 21-28, which states:

Caller ID interface 253 may be implemented as an interface to external caller ID modem ICs or can be an internal modem in hardware or software. Caller ID interface 253 interprets the signals from the call office indicating who originated the call, and makes this information available to processor 250 for indicating on a display of the handset or base and/or logging in memory 251 or in PC 140 using interface 254. This allows important numbers to be given priority, for example, ringing all handsets for high-priority incoming calls, instead of transferring to voice mail if there is no answer on a given handset.

The quote from the specification is to illustrate, by example, the type of functionality as set forth in the claims. Chien does not disclose or suggest this feature as set forth in the present claims. Therefore, Chien fails to disclose or suggest, *inter alia*, a processor, and a phone call linear combiner for selectively combining and routing telephone calls in the system under the control of the processor in accordance with a system configuration, wherein the computer, when interfaced with the base unit via the interface, can communicate with the processor to change the system configuration. Claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the reasons stated. Claims 10 and 19 include similar elements and are also believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the reasons stated. The remaining claims are dependent from claims 1, 10 and 19 and are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

By the Office Action, claims 8, 18 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. '103(a) as being unpatentable over Chien in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,198,925 to Lee et al. (hereinafter Lee).

Lee is directed to an antennae selection method, where a cell 102 is divided into three zones 104A, 106A and 108A. These zones are handled by each respective antenna 104, 106 and 108. While Lee may expand the capacity of a cellular network by providing additional zones and selecting and appropriate antenna for individual users, Lee does not cure the deficiencies of Chien as set forth above. In addition, it is unclear how someone skilled in the art would combine the teachings of Lee with the teachings of Chien to arrive at the present invention. Lee provides an antenna selection method, while Chien provides a wireless telephone system, which employs software applications run on a computer. System expansion in Chien would not be provided by employing an antenna selection method. Further, there is no suggestion in Chien on how to expand the system or if such expansion would even be desirable.

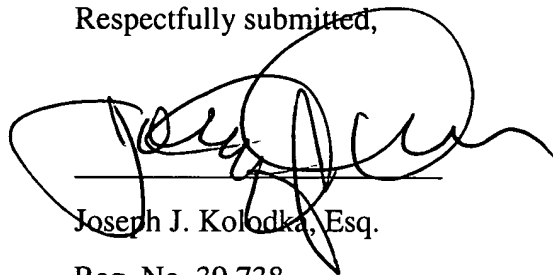
The present claims 9, 18 and 25 recite, *inter alia*, a second interface for interfacing with a second wireless telephone system, under the control of the computer; to expand overall system size. The subject matter of claims 9, 18 and 25 are not taught or suggested by the cited combination for at least the reasons stated above. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the case is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the application, they may be charged to applicant's representatives Deposit Account No. 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

October 1, 2003



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